

# *Plymouth* Congregational Church

*Sharing Faith's Journey*



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***Celebration of Worship***  
**June 11, 2023**

# Celebration of Worship

June 11, 2023

10:30 am

## Second Sunday After Pentecost

*Enter in Prayer, Worship with Gratitude, Go Forth to Serve*

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### Opening Voluntary

*Gather Us In*  
Ken Rodgers, organ

John Behnke

### Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

### \*Opening Hymn

*Gather Us In*

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### \*Responsive Sentences

From Psalm 96

One: Sing to the Lord, bless God's name; tell of God's salvation from day to day.

**All: Declare God's glory among the nations, the Lord's marvelous works among all the peoples.**

One: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; the Lord is to be revered above all gods.

**All: For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.**

One: Honor and majesty are before God; strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary.

**All: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

## Response of Praise

*Summoned by the God*

NETTLETON



Sum-moned by the God who made us rich in our di-ver-si-ty, gath-ered in the name of  
Je-sus, rich-er still in u-ni-ty: Let us bring the gifts that dif-fer and, in  
splen-did, var-ied ways, sing a new church in-to be-ing, one in faith and love and praise.

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## \*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

**God of Grace, make yourself known to us as we gather in your name. May the teachings of your Christ lead us the truths of your ways, and may your presence inspire us along the way. Give us strength to be faithful to your way and gracious to one another, as was the one who taught us to pray ...**  
***Our Mother, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

## Scripture Reading

Luke 15:1-7

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

## Welcoming Song

*Child of Blessing*

STUTT GART

(Let the children come forward.)

Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, love's cre - a - tion, love in deed!

Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.

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## A Moment with Our Children

Dr. Robu

## Prayer Concerns

## Pastoral Prayer

## Organ Response

## Invitation to Offering

## Solo

*How Great Thou Art*  
Jennifer King

arr. Stuart K. Hine

Oh Lord, my God  
When I, in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made I see the stars,  
I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.  
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration  
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

<b>Sermon</b>	“Lukes Mini Gospel: The Gospel Within the Gospel”	Dr. Olsen
<b>*Hymn of Departure</b>	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	(page 10)
<b>*Benediction</b>		
<b>Closing Voluntary</b>	<i>I'm Bound to Go Where Jesus Is</i> Ken Rodgers, organ	Bradley Hunnicutt

**\*Let everyone stand in body or in spirit.  
\*\*\* Ushers will seat late-comers.**

**North Entry Greeter** Alan Fearey

**Communion Table Flowers** Alan Fearey

### **Plymouth Staff**

Rev. Dr. Donald P. Olsen, Senior Minister  
Rev. Dr. Karen Robu, Associate Minister  
Dr. Henry Waters, Director of Music  
Christopher Shaw, Organist  
KD Keim, Financial Secretary/Administrative Assistant  
Lindsay Miller, Sunday School Teacher  
Tim Robu, Maintenance Engineer  
Erik Breckenridge, Video Tech  
John Palmer, Video Tech Assistant

## Celebrating 10 Years of the Plymouth Art Gallery

Yes, it's been ten years since we began showing the artwork of local artists in our once-plain, now-vibrant hallway to our sanctuary. The Fine Arts Board back in 2013 had a brilliant idea – to feature Plymouth artists as well as area artists by creating an art gallery. The members of that Board in 2013 were Steve Kimball, chair; Mary Hunt, gallery coordinator; Michael Morrow, Diane Sorensen, Nadine Stannard, Tom Thompson, and the late RL Wheeler. They sought to give recognition and support to artists, understanding that the visual arts can be part of our spiritual life at Plymouth. A small percentage of sales – though some exhibits were not for sale – stayed with the Fine Arts Board for future use. We have continued to honor this purpose and mission. Recently money was used from this fundraising account to help host the traveling college choir, Nebraska Wesleyan, with their hotel expenses.

Please enjoy and thank our Plymouth artists and artist's family for sharing their works through June and July: Jeanne Shoecraft, Bob Bayer, and Mary Hunt, who is showing the work of her late mother, Julia Bland. Jeanne, Julia, and Bob were all some of our first artists to exhibit. Here are their statements.

**Jeanne Shoecraft**, mother of our minister Dr Robu, has been an accomplished seamstress and quilter for many years. She and some quilting friends showed their creations in a previous exhibit in our hallway. Jeanne writes this about herself and her quilting history: "I have been a seamstress my whole life. I came by it naturally as my paternal grandfather was a tailor and my mother was a seamstress. I don't think I ever had a store-bought Easter dress when I was little.

I had been sewing garments forever until we moved to Canada in 1976. I took a quilting class and that is where it all began. Someone told me "once you become a quilter you won't enjoy making garments much anymore." And it is true. Quilts are much more fun.

In the beginning I sewed many baby and children's quilts for every occasion. Baby quilts for the NICU at hospitals. Youth quilts for here at church for the graduates and many Quilts of Valor for service men and women. Many quilts for family and friends' birthdays and weddings. And I have kept a few for myself. Every quilter has many unfinished quilt projects to finish someday!"

*The Artwork of Julia Bland, written by Plymouth Church member and Julia's daughter, Mary Hunt.*

**Julia Bland** began painting as a teenager. She had little formal training; her expertise comes from years of personal study and practice. Her favorite subjects include Kansas landscapes and historical sites, still life scenes of flowers, and the wonderful products of hard work and time well spent in the vegetable garden or kitchen. She paints primarily with oil and watercolor, but also is masterful with pen and ink.

Married for 68 years, Julia was married to John, a United Methodist minister. She found many ways to serve the Lord and support her husband's ministry with her artistic talents. She is the author and illustrator of a series of 11 books of children's sermons, published by CSS publishing company.

Julia Bland's award-winning artwork has appeared in both private and public collections. Wall murals of Kansas farm scenes have been commissioned of Julia by two Kansas banks. These beautiful scenes depicting harvest, wildlife, and local landscape hang in Lincoln County and Barber County.

Julia passed away on February 18 of this year. She is survived by 6 children, 16 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren, all who continue to reap the blessings of her love, her gentle spirit, and her many God-given talents. In addition, many Kansas communities have benefitted from her service. She gifted a countless number of paintings across the state. Her children and grandchildren are hoping to recover these treasures. If you know the location of any of Julia's works, the family would be pleased to hear from you.

### **Robert P. "Bob" Bayer, Artist Statement**

I am an uninhibited artist. I was born in a little house on a farm near Garden City. I came to Wichita to attend Wichita Business College and have been in the area since then. I started decorative painting when I was about seventy-five years old. That was fifteen years ago. I have painted realistically an elephant, a lion and a self-portrait. Mostly I do splash painting. I have exhibited at Plymouth, Unity Church of Wichita, and a solo show at City Arts.

My method is to put paint on a surface until I like it. Sometimes this takes very little effort and sometimes I can't seem to get enough paint to make it look good. That yields a do-over, or a throw-away. My work is colorful and abstract, but often images appear within the colors and textures. I love seeing what turns up on the canvas.

I am presently writing a true story about an incarcerated man who really did have some artistic talent but found it difficult to stay out from behind bars until he was about sixty-five years old. I hope to exhibit some of his work soon. He painted with such emotion that his work deserves to be shown.

# Gather Us In

1. Here in this place new light is stream-ing,  
2. We are the young— our lives are a mys-t'ry,  
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter,  
4. Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing,

Now is the dark-ness van-ished a-way,  
We are the old—who yearn for Your face,  
Here we will take the bread of new birth,  
Not in some heav-en, light-years a-way,

See in this space our fears and our dream-ings, Brought here to  
We have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry, Called to be  
Here You shall call Your sons and Your daugh-ters, Call us a-  
here in this place the new light is shin-ing, Now is the

You in the light of this day.  
light to the whole hu-man race.  
new to be salt for the earth.  
King-dom, now is the day.



Gath-er us in— the lost and for - sak - en, Gath-er us in— the  
 Gath-er us in— the rich and the haugh - ty, Gath-er us in— the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for ev - er, Gath-er us in and

blind and the lame; Call to us now, and  
 proud and the strong; Give us a heart so  
 bread that is You; Nour - ish us well, and  
 make us Your own; Gath - er us in— all

we shall a - wak - en, We shall a - rise at the  
 meek and so low - ly, Give us the cour - age to  
 teach us to fash - ion Lives that are ho - ly and  
 peo - ples to - geth - er, Fire of love in our

sound of our name.  
 en - ter the song.  
 hearts that are true.  
 flesh and our bone.

# Be Thou My Vision

1. Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2. Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word;  
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,  
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—  
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
May I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son,  
Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.  
Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.  
High King of heav - en, my treas - ure Thou art.  
Still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all. A - men.

## **SUMMER CHOIR SCHEDULE – Y'all come!!**

I would like to invite you to come sing in the choir this summer (June, July, August)! How it works: come to the choir room at 10 AM (directly below the sanctuary near the Commons) to rehearse a simple anthem that we will sing during the service that Sunday! I'll have music and a folder ready for you. You don't have to wear a robe and no processing – just come and sing!

Below are the Sundays where choir will be in worship. There is no commitment. You can come sing for one Sunday or ALL SUNDAYS!! There is always confidence in numbers so bring a friend!!

Sunday, June 18  
Sunday, July 2  
Sunday, July 16  
Sunday, July 30  
Sunday, August 13  
Sunday, August 27

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

Are you interested in singing a solo or duet, or even playing something? We'd love for you to share your gift of music.

Email Henry at [musicdirector@plymouth-church.net](mailto:musicdirector@plymouth-church.net).

## **Ways to Give**

If you would like to make a donation to Plymouth Church's general operating fund or one of their special missions and you don't have a check or cash for the offering plate just scan the QR code to donate using a credit card.



# June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>11</b> 10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>12</b> 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>13</b> 5:30pm Growth Steering	<b>14</b> 6pm Summer Wednesday Night Dinner	<b>15</b> 11:30am Walk & Lunch  5:30pm CE Board  Plymouth Projects	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>Father's Day</b> <b>Mission Possible</b> <b>Sunday</b>  9am Fine Arts Brd  10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>19</b> 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>20</b> 5:30pm Investment Club	<b>21</b> 6pm Summer Wednesday Night Dinner	<b>22</b> 11:30am Walk & Lunch  Plymouth Projects	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>26</b> 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>27</b> 5:30 pm Trustee	<b>28</b> 7pm Elisa Bick- ers & Sett Bott Hymn Festival	<b>29</b> 11:30am Walk & Lunch  Plymouth Projects	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>WAGO Camp</b>						

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, June 18th  
 Dr. Olsen will be Preaching.**

## The Plymouth Covenant

Believing in Jesus Christ, the Interpreter of God to humankind, we accept His teachings as the guiding principles of our lives and consecrate ourselves and our church to their fulfillment. We therefore join in covenant, one with another, to worship, work, and serve together that we may express through our Church and our individual lives the love and faith taught by Jesus Christ.